UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/518,996	12/21/2004	Shaily Verma	PU020307	7008

24498   7590   11/10/2009
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EXAMINER
MEHRPOUR, NAGHMEH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2617	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
11/10/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

<table>
<tr>
<td rowspan="2">

Office Action Summary</td>
<td>Application No.

10/518,996</td>
<td>Applicant(s)

VERMA ET AL.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Examiner

MELODY MEHRPOUR</td>
<td>Art Unit

2617</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *13 July 2009*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,2 and 5-18* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-2, 5-18* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

       1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

       2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

       3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

1.   **Claims 1-2, 5-18**, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Sundar et al. (US Publication 2003/0134638 A1) in view of Hurtta et al. (US

Publication 2004/0228347 A1).

Regarding claims 1, 11-12, 17, Sundar teaches a method for registering a Wireless

Local Area Network (WLAN) as a cellular network routing area (0054), comprising the

steps of:

determining a location of a service request from a user within a cellular network

which comprises a packet-based node (0055, 0056, 0058);

determining whether the location is in or near a WLAN access point (0066);

while servicing the request using the WLAN such that interworking between the

WLAN and the cellular network is provided (0065, 0057, 0067, 0097).

Sundar does not specifically teach a method wherein maintaining packet data protocol (PDP) context while servicing the request using the WLAN (during the handover) to a different network. However, Hurtta teaches a method wherein maintaining packet data protocol (PDP) context while servicing the request using external network that inter-working with the cellular network is provide. In case of handover, the new SGSN may check the APN OI received from the old SGSN in the PDP context information. The result will be maintaining the PDP context instead of sending it to the corresponding GGSN (S38), or deleting the PDP context instead of rejecting the request (S39) (0068). Therefore, it would have been obvious to ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the above teaching of Hurtta with Sundar, in order to provide battery conservation by reducing extra signaling, while seamlessly roaming between different networks.

Regarding claims 5, 14, Sundar teaches a method/system further comprising the step of setting a periodic routing area update timer value while in a WLAN coverage area to reduce signaling while a user is in the WLAN area (0063).

Regarding claim 6, Sundar teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of establishing packet switched signaling connection through the PDP context when existing the WLAN (0056, 0071).

Regarding claims 7, 10, Sundar teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further

comprising the step of :

controlling the loading of cellular cells by shifting user traffic service to WLANs (0055,

0056).

Regarding claim 8, Sundar teaches a method as recited in claim 1, wherein the

interworking between the cellular network and the WLAN is provided by:

uniquely identifying the WLAN as a routing area of the cellular network; and

once identified, setting a routing area update timer to reduce a number of routing area

updates to the cellular network (0071, 0092).

Regarding claim 9, 15, Sundar fails to teach a method as recited in claim 1, wherein

the step of maintaining the PDP context includes maintaining the PDP context to

reduce handoff delay while re-entering the UMTS network. However, Huttra teaches a

method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of maintaining the PDP context includes

maintaining the PDP context to reduce handoff delay while re-entering the UMTS

network (0068). In case of handover, the new SGSN may check the APN OI received

from the old SGSN in the PDP context information. This OI is used according to FIG. 3

starting from step 33. The result will be maintaining the PDP context instead of

sending it to the corresponding GGSN (S38), or deleting the PDP context instead of

rejecting the request (S39) (0068). Therefore, it would have been obvious to ordinary

skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the above teaching of

Hurtta with Sundar, in order to provide battery conservation by reducing extra

signaling, while seamlessly roaming between different networks.

Regarding claim 10, Sundar teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising

the step of enabling cellular service providers to control the loading of cells by shifting

users to WLANs by changing routing area identifiers of the users to that of a WLAN

coverage area (0014, 0071, 0092).

Regarding claim 13, Sundar teaches a system as recited in claim 11, further

comprising a unique routing area identifier, which identifies the WLAN in the cellular

network (0095).

Regarding claim 16, Sundar teaches a system as recited in claim 11, wherein the

cellular network includes a Universal Mobile Telecommunications System (UMTS)

(0098).

Regarding claim 18, Sundar teaches a system as recited in claim 11, wherein the

cellular network learns if a user is in a WLAN coverage area via a routing area identifier

(RAI) update message (0020-0027).

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 7/31/09 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

In response to the applicant's argument that *"nowhere in Hurrta show "maintaining*

packet data protocol (PDP) context while servicing the request using external network that inter-

working with the cellular network is provide"

The object of Hurrta is achieved by a method of establishing a connection in a packet

data network system from serving means to an external network via one of a plurality

of gating means, the method comprising the steps of: The access point may be

indicated by an APN of the GPRS/UMTS system or by any other identifiers (domain

names, IP addresses and subnetwork addresses). [0068] In case of handover, the new

SGSN may check the APN OI received from the old SGSN in the PDP context

information. This OI is used according to FIG. 3 starting from step 33. The result will

be maintaining the PDP context instead of sending it to the corresponding GGSN

(S38), or deleting the PDP context instead of rejecting the request (S39).

The Examiner asserts that while maintaining the PDP context, the mobile handover,

and the connection is maintained seamlessly, therefore, the system can handle

different kinde of service as requested. Hurrta removes the unnecessary restriction to

use a GGSN only in the home or visited network in both GPRS and UMTS. Handovers

between operators can be handled, and, thus, the case can be handled in which the

SGSN, GGSN and HLR are located in different PLMNs. Another implementation

consists in having the decision to accept the PDP context made in an external server

instead of the GGSN, such as a RADIUS server. In this case the RADIUS server

needs to have access to the configured information as described above and implement

the same logic.

Conclusion

3.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

1.   **Any responses to this action should be mailed to:**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to MELODY MEHRPOUR whose telephone number is

5(571)272-7913. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Dwayne Bost can be reached (571) 272-7023.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding

is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Naghmeh Mehrpour/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2617

Nov 09, 2009